

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ABIDJA 05949 221116Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 OMB-01 ACDA-12 AID-05 OPR-02
/120 W

-----018925 221203Z /53

R 220825Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9311
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BANGUI
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT

S E C R E T ABIDJAN 5949

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, IV
SUBJECT: SHABA OPERATION: IVORIANS REQUEST ADDITIONAL
AIRLIFT

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ABIDJA 05949 221116Z

REF: A. ABIDJAN 5783; B. STATE 150529

1. DEFENSE MINISTER M'BAHIA BLE HAS TELEPHONED ME TO REQUEST
AMERICAN HELP IN AIRLIFTING VEHICLES TO SHABA FOR USE OF
IVORIAN PARAMEDICAL TEAM. I TOLD M'BAHIA BLE THAT ALL
AVAILABLE USAF SORTIES HAD BEEN FLOWN AND NO ADDITIONAL
SORTIES WERE PLANNED AT THIS TIME. I SUGGESTED

DEFENSE MINISTER GET IN TOUCH WITH FRENCH EMBASSY AND ALSO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING HELP FROM BELGIANS. I SAID THAT THE FRENCH WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERALL COORDINATION OF LOGISTICAL SUPPORT, ALTHOUGH U.S. HAD BY NO MEANS WASHED ITS HANDS OF SHABA OPERATION AND WE WOULD REMAIN IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH OUR EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN FRIENDS INVOLVED IN THE OPERATION.

2. COMMENT: M'BAHIA BLE'S TELEPHONE CALL CONFIRMS DEPARTMENT'S HUNCH THAT AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS WILL CONTINUE TO NEED LOGISTICAL SUPPORT FOR THEIR FORCES IN SHABA AND WILL TURN TO US FOR ASSISTANCE (REFTEL B). WE HOPE, THEREFORE, THAT CONSULTATIONS ARE CONTINUING - PARTICULARLY WITH FRENCH AND BELGIANS - TO ASSURE THAT JUSTIFIED NEEDS FOR ADDITIONAL HELP ARE MET.
STEARNS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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